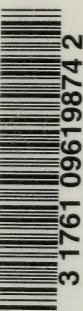


with Mrs Kendall's
amph. Compliments
sociol.
K.



TO THE PRESIDENT AND DELEGATES
OF THE
TWENTIETH NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF THE
WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

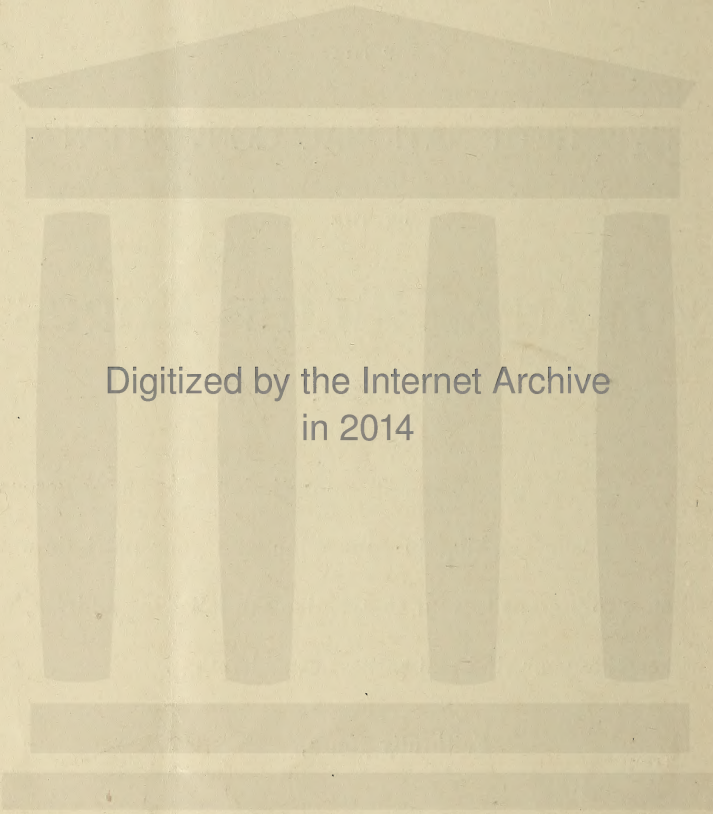
WASHINGTON, D. C.

GREETING :— With my grateful appreciation of your generous endorsement of humane teaching in connection with your patriotic work, I have the honor to present to your Convention the following address, which I hope will receive your kind and earnest consideration.

Faithfully yours,

GEORGIANA KENDALL,
A Vice-President of The American Humane Education Society.

NEW YORK, October, 1902.



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ADDRESS.

IT is a solemn thought that twenty years from now the tell-tale record of present educational methods as evidenced in the future citizens of our country will pronounce judgment upon us.

The men and women of the future are in our public schools to-day, and we are educating them. As the potter moulds the clay, as the gardener trains the vine, so it is for us to forecast their future moral destiny. Strong as may be inherited tendencies, they are not as strong as are the redemptive thoughts and habits which it is the privilege and duty of the public school to impress upon those we hold within our keeping.

Of all the benign influences that can be brought to bear on the formation of character, humane education is, I believe, the most potent, the most subtle, the most far-reaching. Our most harmful criminals are those well educated. The state educates the mind, but not the heart. Humanity means civilization. It has become a matter of statistics that humane education lowers the criminal record.

Mr. Cottrell, General Superintendent of the Detective Association of America, who has had twenty-five years' experience as an officer, says: "Very few criminals are found who have been taught to love animals, and in searching for the causes of crime we find that a lack of humane education is the principal one."

Out of nearly seven thousand children carefully taught kindness to animals in a Scotch public school, it has been found that *not one* has ever been charged with a criminal offence in any court. Out of about two thousand convicts in our prisons, questioned on the subject, *only twelve* had any pet animal during their childhood.

Weyler, it is said, boasted of the cruelties which he delighted, when a child, to perpetrate upon his defenceless dumb companions. Ah, could he but have been taught to love them, thousands of world-pitied concentrados might have called him their benefactor and their friend!

"Ever after I introduced the teaching of kindness to animals," (says the eminent French master, De Sailly), "I found the children not only more kind to animals but also more kind to each other, and I am convinced" (he adds) "that kindness to animals is the beginning of moral perfection, and that a child who is taught humanity to them will, in later years, learn to love his fellow men."

"Nothing ever helped me so much to manage these rough boys" (testifies another) "as teaching them kindness to animals."

"To-day" (says the *San Francisco Call*) "the Jefferson School is one of the most orderly in the city. The children don't fight as they used to. They don't stone cats or tie tin pails to the tails of dogs, or molest the sons of the Flowery Kingdom. And why? Every school child down

that way . . . is made a member of an army for the prevention of all the old evils, and no blue-frocked, brass-buttoned guardian of the peace could ever have done a tithe of the good that these children have accomplished. For four years the principal has been organizing the pupils of the various classes into Bands of Mercy, and now every child (of the 350 members) seems proud of his enrollment."

Satan's playground covers an immense area wherein he finds ample work for little hearts and hands as well as big ones, if idle and listless.

It is often said that children are naturally cruel. Yes, the authentic reports which reach us of cruelties perpetrated by children of tender years well-nigh baffle belief — small animals being the objects of torments ingeniously devised by their competitive imaginings — unremonstrated with by parent or guardian.

In every normal human being we find a *love of power* destined to be used for *selfish* or for *noble* ends, proportionate to the dominating vigor and vitality. And the determining question in character-building is, "To what purpose shall this power be exercised." Shall it be for self and self-gratification? Shall its desire be to tyrannize over another, or shall it be called forth in active sympathy and kindly actions for the defenceless, the helpless, and those in need?

Frances Willard's motherly thought to give a child not a stuffed doll but a live pet to love and make sacrifices for, was a noble inspiration.

Every act, nay every look and thought of loving kindness is to the giver an ennobling benefit. Is not evil energy misused and mis-directed? and with watchful care cannot this overflowing vitality be guided into altruistic channels?

The noblest heritage we can give our growing youth is the tender gift of sympathy—a "feeling with." This is what our humane education aims to do. To draw out the altruistic sentiment, to foster the protective sympathy, to teach the true chivalry of "before self, another."

Not only the sufferings of the animals do we deplore, but the moral degradation of those who impose them.

For the cultivation of morality, sympathy is a penetrating power — our dealings with dependents being an unfailing measurement of our innate integrity of character.

Teach the child to reverence all life for it is God's handiwork.

It is easy to lead with fitting reverence from the creature up to the God who created him, as we explain the divine adjustment of faculties provided for the pressing needs of self-preservation and for their *enjoyment in living*. Let him think reverently of the wild woods — sanctified as they are with many homes and oftentimes a mother love strong enough

for fullest sacrifice of self. Teach him to reverence those homes and to respect the rights, even the *wishes* of their humble inmates; to watch the birds and learn their names, their varied songs, their ways, their modes of speech, but never to kill the mother-bird or rob her nest, woven with dexterous skill and care — a pledge of love.

Let him tame the wild things of the woods with coveted dainties coaxingly given — leaving them liberty to go and come, but never to raise his hand to kill or hurt these charming creatures in fur and feathers. Tell him that many birds, so unnatural is captivity to them, die of a broken heart on being caged.

Let him learn to pity the Southern bird that, finding her children caged, brings to those cruel bars food for their sustenance, then with fuller realization of their bitter fate (the bars that make them prisoners piercing her mother's heart as well) brings to them poison berries — her cry “give them liberty or give them death,” being her song of requiem for them.

Stir within him a kindly thought for menagerie captives whose lot, thwarting every God-given instinct, means to them a living death, cunningly imposed for our diversion.

Discourage the trapping of animals, and cage-kept pets; (freedom to them is dear as life, and he cultivates self who seeks gratification in that which causes distress to another). An appeal to the imaginative faculty will help the child to put himself in another's place.

To our Band of Mercy pledge, “I will try to be kind to all helpless creatures,” let us add still another — namely, that of the Golden Rule teaching, “I will strive to treat every animal as I would wish to be treated were I in the animal's place.” Impress upon the children that cruelty is a cowardly thing.

Inscribe on the school-room walls, as well as on the soft tablets of their hearts, uplifting thoughts:

“A man's charm is his kindness.”

“Cruelty is our meanest crime.”

“Kind words are the music of the world.”

“Let us build up, and not pull down; preserve, and not destroy.”

Impress well the lesson that these humble creatures of God are not in all things our inferiors. Oh, no, indeed! Witness their keenness of scent, their fleetness of foot, their farness of sight, the long flight of the bird, the keen eye of the eagle — so strong and so mighty of wing.

Let us reverently ponder the strange homing instinct by which all unerring birds migrate through vast stretches of chartless country, journeying to reach their longed-for haven, whereas compass, guide and chart are not too much for us of the human family if in an unknown land; their

immunity from disease (all animals dying either from old age or sudden death), for unlike ourselves they are not tempted to transgress the sacred laws which God has set them as their limitation; their gift of interchange of thought by intuition — without the aid of speech; their foreknowledge, calling into use some marvelous system of wireless telegraphy to forewarn against disaster and to tell of distant happenings that to us in no wise are apparent; the surgical skill of birds — as shown in the mud bandages scientifically applied to broken members skilfully secured and kept in place by means of horse hair or vegetable fibre. Not more exact the pyramids of Egypt than the precision of the nest of the wasp, the bee, and the ant — all in divine adjustment of needed means to serve their ends.

And what beautiful lessons of mutual help, of the true brotherhood, can we learn from their sympathy one for the other.

The moose — although to him escape from death was easy — who remained beside his dead companion (brought low by the eager sportsman's cowardly aim) whom, being blind, he was leading to a place of safety, preferring loyal death to easy flight; — the homeless, starving dog, generously bringing night after night others as wretched as himself to share the warmth and bounty offered by some new-found friend and benefactor; — the three rodents seen crossing the silent city in the night hour abreast, a small stick carried horizontally grasped in the mouth of each, serving as the "blind man's staff" to the central figure guarded thus carefully by faithful friends — are pictures of loving kindness we may well place in memory's gallery.

Around the seventy-six millions of our human population are thrown the protection and benevolence of Church and State, but when in 1811 Lord Erskine rose up in the House of Lords and asked for justice for man's dumb fellow creatures he stood practically alone. It is said that loud jeers, vulgar ejaculations, whistling and cock-crowing were the response which greeted this high-minded man. A few years later Richard Martin proposed a law in the House of Commons for the protection of dumb animals. A cat-call from an associate was the only response to his appeal. He stepped out into the center of the House and invited the name of the gentleman who had insulted him. In the dead silence that followed he retired to his seat; *cheer after cheer greeted him*, and his proposed law became the law of Great Britain and the first law of its kind in the world. Insults and jeers were for years heaped upon those who by pen or deed upheld the new protective law. The Church and State alike poured ridicule upon the new defenders.

The cruelties that openly prevailed unchecked, unnoticed, are inconceivable to us who now find ourselves surrounded by humane societies

and advancing ethical sentiment. And yet we have but to go to rural districts or into foreign backward countries to find equally urgent need for humane missionary efforts to check the abuses now existing, such as formerly prevailed throughout the world.

Only recently has the truth dawned upon humanity that the lower creation shares in large measure the sensibilities of the human race. Humanity conscious, repentant, is beginning to blush for the treatment accorded to the animal world.

Many still fancy that headache, toothache, nay, even heartache, and the various ills that make life hard to us are confined to the human race alone! Could these dumb beings groan and speak, in all directions wherever man has gained cruel dominion over them the cries of their long suffering would well nigh deafen the human race.

These Silent Races stand before us face to face as our accusers, bringing indictment of cruelties extreme while they yield us their life service and their lives. Living birds are targets for men's sport and thoughtless vanity demands yearly its millions more for murderous fancy.

The defenceless tortoise we so easily capture, demanding its shell covering which we take by *lingering fire*; the dog in whose noble breast survives a spark of love so great that he would follow his trusted master to the very jaws of death — of hell we may say — even to the vivisector's table; the cat purring in confidence at her mistress' feet dreams not the bolt with which she bars her summer home against her is no harder than her mistress' heart that leaves her helpless friend to starve and grieve during long summer days and winter's freezing nights; the frenzied race of timid fox or hare gives cowardly merriment to groups of men and women, all eager to be in at the death of their dog-hunted gentle victim; the incredible sufferings endured from thirst and hunger during extended transportation; the merciless training of animals into God-never-intended precocity; the dreary life sentence of menagerie captives, which next to vivisection forms perhaps the darkest chapter in animal history; the noble horses distressed by fashion's curb and cruel check — distressing blinders still in vogue (how needless proven by the fact that ambulance and fire department horses yielding safest and most responsive service are not thus encumbered); docked, a helpless prey to eager stinging flies and gnats — a torment that ends not down through the long years to the bitter end of the horse's hard worked old age when passing from owner to owner, from worse to worse, to scantier fare and worse kept stall until broken in body and spirit and sold for a pittance death tardily comes to claim for its rest its too willing victim.

Long, indeed, is the list of these, our accusers!

A conservative writer computes that "cruelty to birds and animals, often caused by ignorance, costs our country not less than sixty million dollars annually; much of which could be saved by humane education in schools;" such instruction to include "the proper care, food and management of all domestic birds and animals."

Four million dollars loss in the horse alone—figures quite comprehensible if we remember the stables full of useless horses (belonging to rich and poor) disabled by over-loading, over-driving, high-checking, improper feeding, painful and injurious shoeing, and other ailments to which are added stable life miseries severe beyond credence.

Professor E. E. Fish of Buffalo, referring to birds says: "It is estimated that they save to agricultural purposes alone, annually, over one hundred million dollars in the United States," and adds: "In many sections insect life is still so abundant as to make human life almost unendurable."

"One pair of purple martens while feeding their young destroy probably two thousand insects in a day."

"In a month three hundred Swainsons' Hawks (it is said) save sixty tons of produce that would otherwise be destroyed by grasshoppers."

The Rhode Island Bird Law reads: "Any person wantonly killing or pursuing with intent to kill any song or insectivorous bird shall be fined twenty dollars for each offence. Disturbing nest or eggs of any wild bird twenty dollars penalty each."

Twenty thousand humming-birds recently offered at sales in London!

It is estimated that five million birds are annually required in America alone to fill fashion's demand! In one winter, in Florida, one party killed one hundred and thirty thousand birds. Forty thousand terns destroyed at Cape Cod in one single season!

All apart from a Divine sentiment, let us improve these national conditions of waste and destruction not only by law's strong arm of repression, but by the irresistible influence of humane education which, creating intelligent agitation, can alone change the pernicious tastes and habits still existing and which have hitherto defeated reform.

In several States there is a law making humane education compulsory.

Hundreds of schools have adopted "Black Beauty" (recommended for such purpose by Dr. William T. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education) as a supplementary reading book—often followed by our various other prize stories almost as valuable, almost as fascinating.

In some schools vivisection (aptly called the Brutalization of Childhood) has been strongly favored—in other schools dissection (almost as abhorrent, at which every healthy soul must revolt,) is forbidden.

One hour each month on the last Friday (or a bi-monthly half hour)

systematically devoted to humane education in all the schools of our land would yield beneficent results in character-building past computation—an education which, including heart culture, shall also give practical instruction concerning the welfare and material needs of the lower creation.

Twenty-five thousand children in the Kansas City Band of Mercy!

Two million members already in American schools. Six or seven million children daily saluting our beloved flag. Can we not have the humane work keeping equal pace with the patriotic? Cannot the teachers be sustained and encouraged and the Bands kept very active by inquiry after their work and progress, and by asking for regularly rendered reports, and offering helpful suggestions? Exercises could be as follows:

Repeat pledge in unison, sing Band of Mercy hymn (to familiar tunes as selected) followed by recitation of memory gems in prose or poetry—a lesson (provided in Mr. Angell's lesson book) followed by questions and remarks by teacher.

The children are greatly interested to tell of kind deeds done by themselves and (preferably) by others.

Mr. George T. Angell, 19 Milk Street, Boston, offers to send needed supplies free to all teachers who have enrolled thirty members.

Bird Day—Arbor Day—Band of Mercy Day! What a delightful break to the tired child mind!

The controlled engine is a splendid helper to man—but let loose from intelligent control its havoc may be irremediable. Misdirected energy is a dangerous force.

The mind of a child may be likened to a sensitized plate absorbing every influence. We can bring him up to be a Protestant, a Roman Catholic, a Buddhist; he can with equal ease acquire the language of a German, a Persian, an American—with respective tendencies of each. We can put into his tiny hands a toy whip or pistol, and we tempt him to use it—not on *himself* but on *another*! This is the first step towards the practice of tyranny, even though the object oppressed be only inanimate.

We can make him a criminal or a philanthropist, an Anarchist or a peace-abiding, peace-loving citizen.

The virtues of self-control, justice and goodness are not passports that open the door either to asylum or prison. Let not the child be negative, indifferent, uncertain, ready to sway towards temptation and evil.

Make him positive. This will be his salvation; positive towards good; to be, to do, to dare for the right. Positive and aggressive *towards* good, positive and aggressive *against* cruelty, wrong and all evil—his noblest attitude that of Defender!

Let our growing youth be strenuous for kindness, justice, gentleness, peace!

We all recognize the descent of man—his descent from the savage unintelligent era whence we emerge. The ascent of man also is ours—an ascent towards all that is highest, noblest and best.

This is the Golden Stairway whose starting point, reaching to the baseness below earth's level, winds ever higher, higher, until it reaches heights made lovely with angelic attributes.

Women of the Relief Corps! It is good news for our beloved land that henceforth your patriotic work is to embrace the humanities. And who so well as our dependent, affectionate fellow-creatures whom God, depriving of speech, seems especially to have committed to our protecting care, can serve as the interesting object-lesson whereby to demonstrate the subtle virtues otherwise so difficult to impress. Who so well as you who love your country with a jealous and all-absorbing passion can bear aloft the excelsior banner of an ennobling, altruistic education!

"Believing that the best patriotism is a broad humanity, I endorse as eminently befitting the work of woman, the plans of the American Humane Education Society" were the gracious words in your President's last year's address.

And to-day, privileged as I am thus to greet you, from the depths of my heart I re-affirm the hope expressed in a resolution passed at a previous convention:

Whereas, The bravest are always the tenderest, and the spirit of humanity underlies the deepest patriotism;

Resolved, That we approve of the work of the American Humane Education Society and similar associations inculcating greater care of the brute creation, as expressed through Bands of Mercy and other organizations of American youth, and recommend that our Committees on Patriotic Teaching shall consider this a very important part of their work of promoting good citizenship. We re-affirm the hope, coming to the Woman's Relief Corps from an officer of the American Humane Education Society, that with the American flag which is to receive honor in every school house may be upheld, likewise the banner of *Mercy, Justice and Compassion*, not less noble, not less needed, which, putting cruelty to shame, shall inspire in the lives of the rising generation gentle thoughts and just and loving deeds."

Approved:

CALISTA ROBINSON JONES,

National President W. R. C.

MARY ELLEN CONANT,

National Secretary W. R. C.

Bradford, Vermont,

October 10, 1902.

PRICES OF HUMANE PUBLICATIONS.

The following publications of the American Humane Education Society and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals can be obtained at our offices at the following cost prices, free of postage:—

Autobiographical Sketches and Recollections, by Geo. T. Angell, 6 cents each at office, or 10 cents mailed; or cloth bound, 20 cents at office, and 25 cents mailed.	
Address to Boston Public Schools, by Geo. T. Angell, 2 cents each, or	\$2.00 per 100
Humane Leaflets, Nos. 1 to 8, by Geo. T. Angell—Eight of either No. or Nos., as wanted, 5 cents; twenty-four for ten cents; one hundred, 25 cents.	
Bird Leaflet, by Geo. T. Angell,	.25 "
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Humane Horse Book, compiled by Geo. T. Angell, 5 cents each, or	5.00 "
Humane Training and Treatment of the Horse, by H. C. Merwin, 1 cent each, or	1.00 "
Cattle Transportation, by Geo. T. Angell,	1.10 "
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Fifty-two Band of Mercy Songs and Hymns, book form, two cents for the whole, or	2.00 "
Band of Mercy Metal Badges, 8 and 5 cents each.	
Band of Mercy Ribbon Badges, 4 cents each.	
Band of Mercy Register, 8 cents.	
Band of Mercy Cards of Membership, 2 cents each.	

Condensed Information, an eight-page pamphlet by Geo. T. Angell, including all necessary for forming Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Bands of Mercy. This, as well as the address of Mr. Angell to the National Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union at Nashville, Tenn., we send without cost to every one asking.

The above can be had in smaller numbers at the same rates.

OUR DUMB ANIMALS

Published on the first Tuesday of each month
by the

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Address GEO. T. ANGELL, *President*.

OFFICES OF THE SOCIETIES:

GODDARD BUILDING, 19 MILK STREET,

Corner Hawley Street, Boston.

